



## Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic Petroleum and Mining Authority



29 May 2014

### Saharawi Republic (SADR) Adopts Mining Code

Members of the Saharawi National Council (Parliament) adopted on 26 May 2014, the first Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) Mining Code.

The bill was presented to Parliament by the Economic Committee of the National Council after consultation with the SADR executive branch. The Code was drafted to international standards by legal firms with extensive experience in advising Governments on mining law. The Code is based on regional best practice with similarities to the recently updated Mining Codes in neighboring countries.

The Mining Code demonstrates the Saharawi Government's commitment to responsible stewardship of the SADR's mineral resources and the management of their development for the benefit of the Saharawi people in accordance with both national and international law. The Code provides for protection of the environment whilst providing an attractive and stable fiscal and legislative framework in which international mining companies may invest and operate.

Mr. Emhamed Khadad, Member of the Polisario leadership and advisor to the SADR President, welcomed the adoption of the Code and said, "Initial exploration results have been very encouraging with confirmation of both iron ore and gold and we believe that the adoption of a clear and competitive Mining Code provides the framework for commercial investment. Prudent development of the natural resources of the SADR, including those currently being illegally exploited by Morocco, will make a significant economic contribution to the Saharawi State".

Mr. Khadad added that "The adoption of the Code demonstrates the Saharawi Government's responsible management of natural resources for the benefit of the Saharawi people, contributing to the development of the SADR and the future stability of the whole Maghreb region".

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